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HARDING
U N I V E R S I T Y

The problem of young-adult absence in the church

Introducing the first installment of 'The millennial Exodus' series

By Kaleb Turner
Editorial Asst.

In the last 25 years, the U.S. population, according to the U.S. Census Bureau, has grown from nearly 250 million to 321 million — adding a total of 71 million people. Therefore, one could assume an increase in church membership across the U.S. would be a plausible consequence of this population rise, but a study from 21st Century Christian's "Churches of Christ in the United States" says otherwise.

The April 2015 study by 21st Century Christian found that in the last quarter-century, total church of Christ membership in the U.S. has fallen to 1,183,613 — that is down 7.8 percent, or 100,443 people, since 1990. The same study also found that the number of church congregations has dropped to 12,300 from 13,174.

"These statistics matter because every number represents a soul and a person that needs to have a savior," Dr. Dan Williams, vice president of church relations, said.

This decline in church attendance is not just contained to the churches of Christ. According to Williams, no demographic in America is experiencing an increase in church attendance.

"Anyone you have a phenomenon that is wide spread

among all demographics you have to look for a cultural explanation," Williams said.

This summer, more than 100 church leaders from four different states attended a seminar at Harding to find that explanation.

"President of the Barna Group David Kinnaman, who has done one of the largest studies of religion in America, came to speak about the cultural trends in the country," Williams said. "He also spoke on the fact that there is a significant increase in the number of people who are not connected in any meaningful way to a church."

Kinnaman named growing secularization, distrust in institutions in general and changes in culture as possible reasons for this decline in church attendance.

Also discussed at the seminar was the topic of millennials' role in this decline.

"Churches need to start focusing on connecting with younger adults through relationships," Williams said.

According to Kinnaman's book "Churchless," millennials and young adults have the "highest levels of church avoidance." A Barna Group study found that six out of 10 "twenty-somethings" who were involved in a church during their teen years have failed to transfer that spiri-

tual activity to their young adult years.

Dr. Joe Brumfield, professor of Bible, conducts anonymous student questionnaires and has collected over 14,000 surveys over the course of 20 years. In his findings, he concluded that another core problem of the church membership decline amongst millennials comes back to the parents.

"There are cultural and media effects, no doubt, but my suspicions are that kids today, in their actions, are reflecting the true secret values of their parents," Brumfield said.

Brumfield said it is an issue of kids' perception of the genuineness of their parents' faith walk.

"They are our children and they are the logical response to our behavior," Brumfield said. "They see us passing the communion plates on Sunday morning and watching 'Dirty Dancing' on Sunday night. That's the problem."

Visibility of a church's social work, confessional among church leaders and sexuality are other noteworthy sources of church cynicism among millennials, according to Brumfield.

"Sadness," President Bruce McLarty said. "That's my initial response to these statistics, but my second

response would be a bit of caution about what you do with these numbers."

McLarty warns of using single-factor analysis in numbers. He emphasizes the importance of looking at multiple factors affecting a problem before jumping to a conclusion or solution.

"Whatever Harding's prescription to this problem

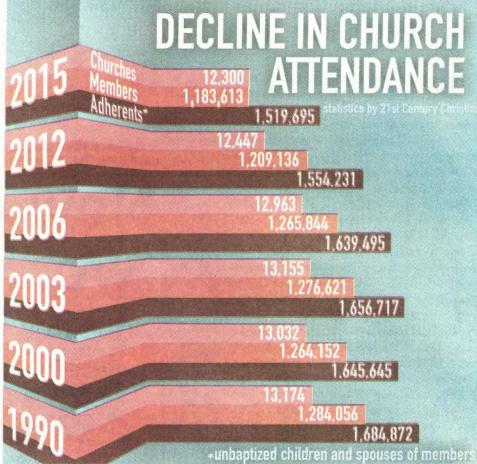
is, it cannot take away the free will choice of people to decide for themselves," McLarty said. "But we can do our best to lead people in the right direction."

No matter the cause of the problem, Williams said one solution is vital.

"We can no longer just assume that people have a Bible background, that people

are interested in church or understand the significance of church and Christianity," Williams said. "We're going to have to light our candle in the darkness and become more mission minded."

Part two of "The millennial Exodus: real response from the absent generation," will appear in next week's issue of *The Bison*, on stands Friday, Oct. 16.



GRAPHIC BY SAWYER HITE

2015 Lectureship series wraps up



AMANDA FLOYD | THE BISON

The 2015 Lectureship series "Secrets of the Kingdom" featured more than 10 keynote speakers. In addition to students, an estimated 2,200 attendees were present on campus.

Relay for Life, Race for the Cure this weekend

By Zach Halley
Editor-in-Chief

This weekend, on Friday and Saturday, students will have several opportunities to help raise money to fight cancer. The Harding Relay for Life will take place tonight on the front lawn from 5 p.m. to 5 a.m. Students are encouraged to participate in purchasing baked goods, drinks and other goods from club-sponsored vendors. Even if students do not wish to stay out past curfew, they still can participate in most of the evenings festivities. Harding has assembled over 25 teams and booths to attend the relay.

Senior Craig Thomas, activities director for men's social club SubT-16, said the club will rent the portable climbing wall from Zion Climbing Center. Thomas said he loves the difference that this night makes for those who are struggling with cancer. "As cheesy as it is, seeing so many people gather to help fight cancer is the best part of the night," Thomas said. "I have a friend back home that has already expressed what it means to him that (Harding) does this."

Thomas said he has many friends who are or have known those with cancer, and understands how much it means to them.

"It makes such a bigger difference than we realize," Thomas said. "Aside from the money raised, having people stricken by cancer know that we are aware and care, that makes an immeasurable impact."

SubT-16 also invites students to come play Wii Sports with Harding

presidents as characters. Students can feed puppies and kittens to school and play with from a few vendors, including women's club Chi Omega Pi and men's club Omega Phi. Men's club Knights will be continuing a booth where members are auctioned off for a date.

The following day in downtown Little Rock, the Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure will be taking place on Main Street. Racers are encouraged to wear pink to support those who have survived breast cancer. According to the Director of Special Events Jessie Gillham, participants have three options to walk or run; a 5k Timed Run, the most popular 5k Walk and the 2k Family Walk.

"No matter how many times you have participated in the race, the energy and celebration you experience at Race for the Cure is exciting and new every year," Gillham said. "I love watching Downtown Little Rock turn into a sea of pink on race morning."

Gillham also said that the majority of funds raised during this race stay in Arkansas, while the rest is sent to fund national studies.

"Seventy-five percent of the funds raised from Race for the Cure stay right here in Arkansas to fund breast cancer education, treatment and research grants," Gillham said. "The remaining 25 percent directly funds national breast cancer research."

Students can register as a team or individually for Race for the Cure or donate at Arkansas.info-komen.org. In case of rain, Relay for Life will be held in the Ganus Athletic Center.

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Check out the iPhone 6s and 6s Plus new features including 3-D Touch

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Lady Bisons golf team shoots its lowest score yet

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NASA announces Mars water find Scientists investigate potential life forms

By Joshua Johnson
Opinions Editor

On Sept. 28, NASA announced that up to one-fifth of Mars may have once been covered by water, due to recent photographs transmitted from the Mars Reconnaissance Orbiter, according to Quartz.

Dark stains resembling the aftermath of seeping liquid have been discovered fanning out at the bases of Martian cliffs. Scientists refer to these kinds of stains as recurring slope lineae (RSL), which they define as salty, liquid residue flowing in a downhill direction, according to a NASA press release on Sept. 28.

"Our quest on Mars has been to 'follow the water,'" John Grunsfeld, former astronaut and associate administrator of NASA's Science Mission Directorate in Washington D.C. said. "This is a significant development, as it appears to confirm that water — albeit briny — is flowing today on the surface of Mars."

Dr. Edmond Wilson, professor of chemistry, is a Solar System Ambassador for NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory, and has been focusing on Martian research for the last 15 years. Wilson said that although there have been hoaxes in the past, there is no doubt this time that water does exist on Mars.

"The feeling now is that it is indeed water that seeped out of the side of a crater, just as you would see when you drive down the highway in winter ... and you see icicles coming out of the sides of a

cut through an embankment," Wilson said.

Wilson said the reason the water is not immediately evaporating is possibly due to the high salt content, which lowers the freezing point and allows the water to spread and form the RSL picked up by the Orbiter's cameras.

"This fact that there is liquid water on Mars is extremely important if you are looking for signs of life," Wilson said. "My friend Dr. Chris McKay at NASA Ames Research Center is an expert astrobiologist ... and (he) said that the chemistry of life in the rest of the universe would have to be carbon-based and require water to exist."

Wilson said that recent evidence shows there is life to be found in the crevices of rocks in the Atacama Desert in Chile, which is one of the driest places on Earth. Therefore, the idea of life on Mars is not so far-fetched after all.

"It is thought that if there is life on Mars, it is microbial in nature and would be found underground in caves that were warmer and wetter," Wilson said.

In the Sept. 28 press release, NASA referred to this discovery as the "latest of many breakthroughs" in Mars research.

"It seems that the more we study Mars, the more we learn how life could be supported and where there are resources to support life in the future," Michael Meyer, lead scientist for NASA's Mars Exploration Program said.



EMILY EASON | The Bison

The First Ladies Garden is still undergoing construction. The estimated date of completion for the garden is Oct. 23, when there will be a dedication ceremony at Homecoming.

New garden features 'worthy women' wall Families honor loved ones with words

By Julie Anne White
News Editor

Lou Lawyer spent most of her life connected to Harding University. After her passing in May 2015, her family decided to honor her with a plaque on the wall of Worthy Women and a bench in the new First Ladies Garden.

Lawyer's daughter Andee Cone said she and her two sisters want to honor both of their parents on Harding's campus, and they decided to start with their mother.

"Since the First Ladies Garden is coming along, we decided to honor her first," Cone said. "She loved Harding a lot. My parents thought it was a wonderful community to be a part of."

According to her plaque, Lawyer graduated from Harding in 1948. She met her husband Virgil Lawyer on campus, and after receiving encouragement from former Harding President George Benson, they became missionaries in Japan. They established Ibaraki Christian High School, which has since developed into a university. The couple then returned to Searcy in 1961. Lou Lawyer taught fifth grade in Searcy Public Schools for 23 years, while her husband was a

history professor and eventually dean of students at Harding.

Cone said education was always of the utmost importance to her mother, and that she was beloved as a fifth grade teacher.

"I think the kids could sense that she loved them and wanted them to do their best," Cone said. "She expected a lot out of the students. She was very structured with their learning and I think a lot of them really needed that."

She loved being engaged with things going on at Harding. They always worked with and loved students.

-Andee Cone
Harding Alumna

After retirement, Lou Lawyer and her husband continued to live on Harding Drive and welcomed grandchildren and other college students into their home for meals.

Lou Lawyer's grandson, assistant Harding football coach Matt Underwood, said it was a huge blessing to have his grandmother so close to campus while he was a student. Underwood said he and his cousins ate a meal at Lou Lawyer's house every Wednesday afternoon.

"It is one of my best memories from college," Underwood said. "She was just one of those ladies who made you feel like you were the most special person on earth. She set an example for how to treat your family. She left such a legacy. We were blessed to have her as long as we did."

Cone said building relationships with college students was one of her mother's passions. "She loved being engaged with things going on at Harding," Cone said. "They always worked with and loved students."

Underwood said above all, his grandmother was a strong Christian example in his life. "Her relationship with God was of the utmost importance," Underwood said. "There was always a devotional book on her chair."

Lou Lawyer's plaque, along with many others, will hang on the retaining wall near Pryor Hall as a feature in the First Ladies Garden. The garden's dedication and estimated date of completion is Oct. 23.

Dyslexia therapy courses available

By Savanna DiStefano
Features Editor

Harding is the first university in Arkansas to offer a dyslexia therapist endorsement for licensed teachers this year. The course was approved in April and began in the summer with 45 enrolled students who will be the first to hold the new endorsement after graduation in December.

Dr. Susan Grogan, director of adult and extended education, and Dr. Wendy Ellis, director of reading, headed the development of the course last fall in response to a state act from 2013. The act says each school district must have individuals to serve as dyslexia interventionists no later than the 2015-16 academic year, according to Arkansas Department of Education.

"When that (act) came out, we got busy and started writing a program that could also coordinate into our master's in reading and our master's in special education," Ellis said. "I think it will have a great effect on students because... This will enable them to have the knowledge to help those children (with dyslexia) succeed because they deserve the best education they can have."

According to The Dyslexia Foundation, dyslexia is a learning disability that impairs reading ability with difficulty of letter sounds, spelling and reading aloud. Their website says 10 to 15 percent of the U.S. population has dyslexia.

"It's such a screaming

need in the state that all the universities who have graduate level education courses are trying to get their programs off and running," Grogan said. "We are just lucky we are the first ones because we had a lot of people this summer."

The 15-hour online course includes five three-hour classes conducted by Grogan and adjunct professor Dallas Henderson from Rogers, Arkansas.

Dr. David Bangs, chair of graduate studies, said the course is a success and coordinates well with the current graduate programs offered.

"It meshed really well with our master's of reading, so all (the students) had to do was pick up some extra courses," Bangs said. "It meets the needs of kids first."

Grogan said the course uses videos and field experience to help teachers learn how to better assess and teach children with dyslexia.

"The need is not going to go away," Grogan said. "It's an endless supply-and-demand kind of thing for at least the next few years, so we anticipate growth."

Ellis said she has learned the value in helping students read from her grandmother who is illiterate.

"It's sort of my mission to make sure all kids get education they deserve," Ellis said. "My grandmother did not get it, and she's told me multiple times, 'If you can do anything in this world, help people learn how to read.'"

Climate changes create problems Pope, politicians talk issues, strategies

By Hannah Moore
Beat Reporter

When Pope Francis visited the White House at the end of September, he stated that climate change was "a problem which can no longer be left to a future generation." His comment and others like it have resurfaced conversation about climate change.

The effects of climate change include a rising global temperature, changes in rainfall, more frequent and severe heat waves, oceans warming and becoming more acidic, ice caps melting and sea levels rising.

Dr. Tracie Pittman, assistant professor of science and biology, conducted her graduate research in the arctic studying the hibernation patterns of arctic ground squirrels.

"One of the perhaps under-realized problems with climate change is not just a temperature change," Pittman said. "There is more moisture and actual storms when you don't expect them. We had a couple of spring snowstorms which buried everything in a

couple feet of snow, and that really hurts the squirrels because they suddenly really need food and they can't get any food. A lot of them didn't make it through the spring."

According to the Environmental Protection Agency, these phenomena are "consistent with the warming properties of carbon dioxide and other heat-trapping gases that we are adding to the atmosphere."

Dr. Dennis Matlock, chair and associate professor of biochemistry, said that the origin of these gases can not be conclusively traced. "To my understanding, the hard part is tracking the source of these chemicals," Matlock said. "They come from the tailpipe of your car or from your breath! In all candidness, I can't tell you which one. We need to determine if there is a causal relationship or a correlation between technology and climate change. I don't know what we can do if we don't understand the problem."

Junior Seth Garcia said that we should be doing more to

limit carbon dioxide emissions.

"There's no point in denying climate change anymore," Garcia said. "Regardless of whether it's caused by humans or it's a natural process, there's no reason we shouldn't be working to stop it. If we continue to destroy the planet for the sake of the economy, will we be okay with telling future generations that what we did was for the sake of our finances?"

According to National Public Radio (NPR), only five out of the 20 current presidential candidates have explicitly said they would try to combat climate change if elected. Another five of them even deny that climate

change is real.

Pittman said that she does not understand why climate change has become a political question.

"People now have an idea based on politics instead of science," Pittman said. "I see a lot of conservative Christians just closing the book on climate change without actually considering what may be going on. We humans were put on this planet to take care of it, and Christians should be able to recognize that this is a responsibility to God. If we are causing problems with the Earth, we need to be aware of it and we need to stop it."

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Three reasons to give Bernie Sanders a chance

kirk mcdaniel

guest
writer



Bernie Sanders. Surely you've heard of him. He is the longest serving independent in Congress, an eight-term representative in the House and is currently on his second term as one of two Vermont senators.

A controversial figure, Sanders is conducting his first campaign for the presidency of the U.S., and is doing startlingly well. According to a recent Quinnipiac University Poll, Sanders holds 25 percent of the Democratic vote. That is incredible for an aging, openly socialist candidate running against the most endorsed candidate in recent history (Hillary Clinton holds more than 400 endorsements from members and former members of the American government). Additionally, Sanders is even beating Clinton in early primary states like Iowa and New Hampshire. Most conservatives dismiss Sanders as unelectable, refusing to

give him a chance. Here are three reasons why they are wrong.

1. Bernie Sanders desperately wants to separate money and politics. In 2010, the Supreme Court ruled in the Citizen's United V. FEC that corporations deserved the same rights as humans and could therefore donate unlimited amounts of money to whichever candidate they desired. This allows the rich to donate hundreds of millions of dollars to their chosen candidate in the form of super PACs. Sanders refuses to accept any money affiliated with super PACs, and instead raises the majority of his campaign funds from the middle class in the form of thousands of tiny donations. Sanders wants to ignite a "political revolution" against the "oligarchy." Irrespective of his other opinions, that remains a triumphant ideal to set about achieving.

2. Bernie Sanders is consistent in his policy beliefs. Sanders has served in Congress for the past 25 years. Throughout his tenure, Sanders has remained utterly committed to his views, not backpedaling on any. He rejected the idea of the Iraq invasion and the Patriot Act. And yes, he has supported gay rights since the 70s. Regardless of your positions on those actions, is it not commendable that he

is true to his beliefs? Honesty is always preferred over lies.

3. Bernie Sanders wants to partner with you. Recently, Sanders traveled to the conservative Liberty University in Lynchburg, Virginia. Liberty has somewhat similar demographics as Harding — conservative Evangelicals. Therefore, his statements there can just as well apply to Harding students.

"I believe from the bottom of my heart that it is vitally important for those of us who hold different views to be able to engage in a civil discourse," Sanders said. "I understand that the issues of abortion and gay marriage are issues that you feel very strongly about. We disagree on those issues. I get that, but let me respectfully suggest that there are other issues out there that are of enormous consequence to our country and in fact to the entire world, that maybe, just maybe, we do not disagree on, and maybe, just maybe, we can try to work together to resolve them."

I'm willing to give Sanders a chance, are you?

KIRK MCDANIEL is a guest writer for the **Bison**. He may be contacted at jmcdaniel@harding.edu.

joshua johnson



don't mind me...

Why America must choose wisely

Let's talk about Ben Carson.

Astonishingly, I have met people this past week who do not know the story behind Carson's bid for the presidency. In response to the question, "Do you know who Ben Carson is?" one woman asked if he was a congressman, another asked if Carson was the Hewlett-Packard guy, and one boy said, "Do you mean Donald Trump? Because I know who that is."

So let's talk about Ben Carson.

A neurosurgeon turned author turned political commentator for Fox News, Carson is open about his Christianity. It is a staple feature in his candidacy platform. I admire this — Lord only knows the struggle that ensues when a presidential candidate attempts to balance "church and state." And in a Republican race peppered with big name Evangelicals, Carson has held his own, despite an obvious lack of political experience and an underwhelming debate persona.

It is in the small-group setting that Carson seems to shine. At a Faith and Freedom Coalition conference in Washington, D.C., earlier this fall, Carson put everything on the line, saying that, "I can tell you that my faith is very important to me, and I believe that one of the reasons this country excelled beyond anything anybody else has done, and so quickly, is because of our value system. Our values were based upon our Judeo-Christian faith, and as we threw that away, we see that we are no longer excelling, and we're actually moving in the opposite direction."

While Huckabee and Cruz, filled with fire and brimstone, are calling Obama's administration the most "anti-Christian in American history," Carson is content to be the more conservative among the conservatives. He has even been forthcoming on the subject of his own inexperience, saying in a San Francisco morning TV interview that "there's nobody who knows everything," and that the ones who perform well are those who "know how to utilize the experts around them."

Despite all of this, I don't know if Carson is the man for the job.

Historically, there have been U.S. presidents with little political background, but those individuals were still either decorated war heroes (e.g. Dwight Eisenhower and Ulysses S. Grant), or had at least one to two years of mayorship or governorship (e.g. Grover Cleveland and Woodrow Wilson, although Wilson's election can largely be attributed to the GOP split between Taft and Roosevelt). Twenty-six presidents had previous experience in law, and 22 had military backgrounds.

In a postmodern world, maybe Carson's bid is not so far-fetched. He is a renowned neurosurgeon. He is a proven leader, an accomplished speaker, an author and a political enthusiast. He is a man of God, and like the judges of the Old Testament, many believe he is being raised up "for such a time as this."

Who am I to doubt that this is the case? But, if the U.S. is going to elect a commander-in-chief with no experience in either military strategies or foreign policy, then we need to be sure Carson is, indeed, the chosen one. If he is not, then we could be forced to brace ourselves for four years of cabinet leadership.

JOSHUA JOHNSON is the opinions editor for the **Bison**. He may be contacted at jjohnson4@harding.edu. Twitter: @joshjohnson146

FACES IN THE CROWD

"WHICH WOMAN SHOULD BE FEATURED ON THE \$10 BILL?"

Josh Gafford
Freshman

Josh Robinson
Junior

Margaret Henkel
Junior

Celeste Hernandez
Sophomore



"I don't think Hamilton should be taken off, since he started the currency system."

"Dolly Parton."

"Phillis Wheatley."

"Either Florence Nightingale or Betsy Ross."

At least a while

grant stewart

guest
writer



"Aye, fight and you may die. Run and you'll live — at least a while. And dying in your beds many years from now, would you be willing to trade all the days from this day to that for one chance, just one chance, to come back here and tell our enemies that they may take our lives, but they'll never take our freedom?" William Wallace quotes this in one of my favorite movies, "Braveheart." In this scene, many Scottish soldiers are dismayed at the sight of the approaching British army, and they desperately want to give up and run. Wallace has to remind them that, if they run, they might survive, but the remnants of that life might not be worth living due to regret.

It seems we humans face a lot of these battles. For example, Thomas wants to write the great American novel, but when he tells his parents, they believe going into the medical field would make him

much safer and happier, as Thomas is a bright boy and they do not want to see his brain go to waste. Thomas then trades in his pen and paper for a stethoscope, saying he might get around to writing that book someday. He has a happy life as a successful surgeon — at least for a while. He often wonders if he could have inspired the world with his book, which he never found the time to start.

This story could also apply to those who think they cannot handle medical school because of all the risks it entails, or they cannot handle the mission field because they do not believe they will be successful. People will change majors, avoid asking a girl on a date, disregard a ministry they are called to and scrap entrepreneurial pursuits because they are "just playing it safe." Let me say this plainly. "I'm playing it safe" is a roundabout way of saying "I'm scared of failing."

As the world's leading expert of dwelling on "could-have-beens," I'm ashamed to admit that I am extremely guilty of letting this fear define me. Failure is a hard thing to cope with, yet life is not defined by the amount of times you fall, but the amount of times you get back up. Without those who took risks (and

those who failed) we would not have the lightbulb, the airplane or an independent United States of America, to name a few. When the battle comes, swallow your pride, screw your courage to the sticking place and charge boldly down the path you know is right.

This does not mean that one should drop everything, move to Nashville and camp outside of a producer's studio in hopes that he might make it big; rather, it means he should move wisely toward his goal. The Scottish warriors did not just blindly charge into the British ranks; Wallace had a plan that helped him overcome the British army with the help of some great, loyal men. Never put your dreams on the sideline, but continue toward them with a plan and some loyal people to help you along the way. Most of all, never be afraid to follow that dream, as it may be just where God is calling you. William Wallace died for what he believed in; what are you willing to do?

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hailey to the chief

Defy the gods

Splinters and blood covered the hands of the Trojan general. The panicked cries of his surviving crew echoed across the choppy water as he stood on the side of the ship. Just before he and his crew were out of earshot, ignoring the pleas of his men to sit down, Odysseus yelled to the monster on shore.

"Cyclops, if any mortal human being asks about the injury that blinded you, tell them Odysseus destroyed your eye, a sacker of cities, Laertes' son, a man from Ithaca," Odysseus said.

At this, the Cyclops, blinded by a wooden spike that Odysseus had driven through his eye, cried out to his father Poseidon, god of the sea. He asked that Poseidon do all he could to stop Odysseus from getting home to his family. Although unable to directly kill Odysseus, Poseidon began to hurl obstacles at the arrogant general. This begins the Greek epic "The Odyssey," the story of Odysseus' adventure back to his home.

Many scholars look down upon the arrogant Odysseus, saying that he should have kept his big mouth shut. They agree that his trip home would have been unhindered, but I believe in a different Odysseus. I like to imagine Odysseus feeling undeniably invincible. Amid his over-the-top confidence lies the mental strength to overcome — or defy — any obstacle, enemy or even a god that attempts to stand in his way.

No power in or above the world can stop Odysseus from traveling from point A to point B. I think there is a lesson we can learn from the "arrogant" Odysseus. "The Odyssey" takes place over the span of a lifetime, and although it takes Odysseus' his entire life to reach his goal, he does it.

This semester I have seen students be rushed into hospitals and family members getting sick at a more rapid rate than normal. The semester seems to be blanketed with a thick, heavy cloud of tough stuff. Although hard times gives the student body the opportunity to bond closer together, some wish this closeness could have come about a different way.

Often, individuals from all backgrounds will speak of life as a trouble-filled journey. Getting through in one piece is a goal in itself. I think this undeniable confidence and feeling of invincibility is what many people need to push through "giants." Life is too short to look at a road of challenging years with a hung head and a "realistic" mind. Is life challenging? Yes. Can a death of a loved one, a failed test or years of debt stop life in its tracks? Absolutely. However, choosing to stand on the side of a ship while ignoring the crews advice and instead yelling at the giant on shore shows a confident life that is willing to overcome any challenge that gets in the way.

The story of Odysseus ends with our indignant hero reaching Ithaca, sneaking his way back into his home that is overrun with men trying to marry his wife, proving that he is who he says he is by stringing his bow which no other could string, shooting an arrow through a dozen ax heads, slaying all of the suitors that had lined up to marry his wife and becoming the father he had wanted to be for his son, just like we would expect of a man with an invincible spirit. Instead of letting terrible events and difficult situations wear you down, I challenge you to develop an "arrogance" to not give up. Stand up against the daunting fears of the future and choose instead to "defy the gods."

ZACH HAILEY is the editor-in-chief for the Bison. He may be contacted at zhailey@harding.edu. Twitter: @zach_hailey



Illustration by RACHEL GIBSON

Jammie mischief

melissa hite



guest writer

Before I came to England, I thought I understood the British affinity for tea. I didn't realize that the average Brit drinks (I'm not kidding) eight cups of tea per day — nor did I appreciate the wondrous gift from heaven that is the British biscuit.

Unfortunately, Chick-fil-A doesn't exist in England, so I'm not talking about that flaky fried-chicken goodness you wait for after chapel every day. In Britain, biscuits are crumbly cookies, ideal for dipping in your (seventh or eighth) cup of tea, and literally everyone loves them. Delicious and dirt cheap, they're a staple of English life, so I had to buy myself at least one package during my semester here — for purely cultural reasons, of course.

I didn't know what I was getting myself into when I walked into Sainsbury's (think Kroger, but more British) and discovered an entire aisle devoted to biscuits. Facing a solid wall of custard creams (which remind me of Golden Oreo's), bourbon cremes (which don't contain

any bourbon) and orange marmalade Jaffa Cakes, I nearly went into sensory overload. To narrow down my options, I resolved to buy whichever kind sounded most British; this was, after all, a cultural endeavor. While the package marked simply "Nice Biscuits" almost won out, I finally settled on a red sleeve labeled "Jammie Dodgers." If that name alone wasn't English enough, the packaging proclaiming "No added nasties! Full of jammie mischief!" certainly sealed the deal.

The funny thing about addiction is that you don't usually realize you have one until it's too late. Less than 24 hours later, I found myself back at Sainsbury's buying not one, not two, but three more packages of shortbread-and-raspberry-ganache goodness, having already devoured my inaugural bag. Two weeks (and at least 10 sleeves of biscuits) later, I don't know how to start my day, wind down for the night or accomplish much of anything at all without a good British cuppa and a stack of Jammie Dodgers.

If I'm being honest, though, that's a personal victory for me. Last semester I worked two jobs on top of my 16-hour class schedule, which occasionally made it difficult to eat at normal times. Gradually I found myself skipping meals out of convenience — then just skipping meals because I didn't feel like eating. My once voracious sweet tooth all but disappeared, and I hardly ever snacked. After a while, when I did sit down to eat normally, my appetite had shrunk to the point that I could only eat about half a

plate of food at a time, even if I hadn't eaten all day. Before I realized what was happening, I had lost about 10 of my 135 pounds in the course of a few months.

The funny thing about an eating disorder is that you don't usually realize you have one until it's too late. Thank God, I think I caught myself before my awful eating habits turned into full-blown anorexia. It was the week in Iceland that pulled me out of the downward spiral. Since we were constantly on the move, we ate nearly all our meals together, which made it hard to skip. My body, now used to eating three meals a day, got far more insistent if I tried to go hungry.

So at about 11 o'clock last night, when I made the walk through the dark to Sainsbury's to buy Jammie Dodgers, it struck me how far I've come. I haven't skipped a meal in weeks now, and in case you hadn't gathered, my sweet tooth has made a triumphant return. Here's to hearts full of self-love and bellies full of food ... and maybe just a little jammie mischief.

For more of Melissa Hite's overseas adventures, check out her "Worlds Away" column at www.thebison.harding.edu.

MELISSA HITE is an overseas beat reporter for the Bison. She may be contacted at mhite@harding.edu.

Interested in writing a guest column?
Contact Joshua Johnson at johnson4@harding.edu.

Just the Clax

I don't know what it is with me and frogs. Ever since I bought a house four years ago, I've had a regular stream of amphibian visitors hopping around inside. I've found them in the living room. I've found them on the window sill and even on top of the door post. Yet another one turned up under the couch during spring cleaning this year, looking a little dried out.

While things were hardly reaching Exodus-level pestilence, I still had to do something. So I started tightening my home defenses. I put new weather-stripping on the door frames. I patched up a hole in the brick under my back porch door. I checked the seal on the chimney. And I put up a sign that read, "No Croaking." I wanted the little wart-mongers to know I was serious.

For about two months, it worked. Then came last Monday morning. I was quietly reading a magazine, minding my own business and just about to turn to the next article. All of a sudden I saw a green head poke out above the page, with two tiny little eyes staring up at me. It took only three seconds to process what was going on. There was a frog in my magazine.

At that point, I did a very manly thing. I screamed, and threw the magazine onto the floor. The equally surprised stowaway started bouncing around like mad under my feet. After I took a moment to pull myself together, I got a plastic cup, scooped up the intruder and tossed him outside. My mind was ablaze with questions. How did he get in the house? Didn't he see the sign? And why was he inside a magazine? I didn't realize frogs read "The Weekly Standard."

It occurred to me, though, that they could be sending me a message. You see, three nights earlier I was cutting the grass in the

The tell-tale toad



michael claxton

front yard when an unfortunate incident occurred. As I ran over a mound of grass, I heard a loud chomping noise in the mower. When I looked down, I saw it — one half of a frog, cut lengthwise and still slightly pulsating. Even worse, I recognized him. He had a reputation in the neighborhood as a famous jumper, capable of leaping anthills with a single bound. But now he was dead. It was not at all intentional. I did not see him. Sometimes nature's camouflage backfires. In fact, if the frog had been bright orange like some of his cousins in the Amazon Rainforest, he might be intact today. I promise that I do not recklessly march around my yard looking for animals to slaughter.

Yes, I've had my disagreements with the birds and the moles and the ants, but just a few weeks prior to all of this, I had gone to heroic lengths to rescue a hummingbird trapped in my garage. The garage door was open only three feet below him, but the poor thing was flying around and around the ceiling, trying to get out. This went on for hours.

Bless their hearts, hummingbirds are not bright, having a brain the size of a Rice Krispie. So I went to the brush pile and got a tree branch. I brought it back into the garage and held it up close to the

ceiling for quite a while. Eventually, the bird landed on it, and I slowly lowered the branch and walked out of the garage. He finally flew to safety. So see, I am not a villain.

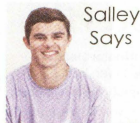
But did that story get out to the frogs? I'm starting to think not, and I'm afraid all they saw was the half order of frog legs still sticking under the lawnmower. This champion leaper was widely liked among his friends, and I'm afraid their payback will be slow and psychological. Frogs are a patient species. I'm not expecting a toe in a napkin or a horse head in the bedsheets. No, the revenge will be more subtle, and in fact it's already started. On Monday, I found a frog in my reading material. On Tuesday, the Muppets were back on TV with a new show, starring Kermit the Frog. On Wednesday, I pulled up to a stoplight, and it turned green!

At first I tried to ignore the signs, but everywhere I go now, I hear croaking. Soft at first, but then it gets louder and louder and louder. I hear croaking in my sleep, in the pantry, in the dishwasher. Sometimes I even think I am croaking, as if I have a frog in my throat. I fear I am slowly going insane. The noise is so deafening that I'm afraid if friends come over to the house, I will start tearing up planks in the floor and confessing to murder.

It all seems like a lot of worry over just one celebrated jumping frog that I accidentally cut in Twain.

MICHAEL CLAXTON is a guest writer for the Bison. He may be contacted at mclaxto1@harding.edu.

At the Bison, it is our goal to serve the Harding University student body with integrity, truth and open ears. However, we believe that meeting that goal is a two-way street between our staff and the public it serves. We pledge to keep our eyes and ears open to what our community has to say and hope that, in return, that community will be an interactive audience, sharing its stories with us. We also pledge to do the basics: Report accurate and relevant information, check our facts, and share them in a professional, timely manner. If you have any story ideas, questions, comments or concerns for the Bison staff, please email Zach Hailey, the editor-in-chief, at zhailey@harding.edu. *The Bison (USPS 577-660) is published weekly (except vacations, exams and summer sessions), 20 issues per year, by Harding University. Periodicals postage paid at Searcy, Arkansas 72143. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to The Bison, Harding University 11192, SEARCY, AR 72149-0001. *BYLINE POLICY: The Bison provides an opportunity for class writers to contribute work under the byline "guest writers." Due to this arrangement, staff writers may rewrite a portion of the guest writers' stories as they deem necessary, while still identifying the work as the guest writers' own.



Salley Says

MLB's perfect playoff

Trying to predict baseball is insane and pointless. It's even more insane and pointless if you don't give a hoot about it (like me). Nothing ever works out the way it should. This year might be the weirdest postseason yet. Just look at the teams in the field: other than the Cardinals, Yankees and Dodgers, it looks like someone did a fantasy draft on "MLB: The Show" and all the good players ended up on random teams; which would be one of the only ways to explain the Mets, Astros, Royals, Pirates or Cubs being in the playoffs, much less all of them together at the same time. I mean seriously, the Astros lost 100 games the last two years and the Cubs are, well, the Cubs. What a time to be alive. Anyhow, I can't predict squat and neither can you, so instead of trying, here is what I hope and pray will happen in the 2015 MLB playoffs:

AL Wild Card: Yankees are already done, so we're off to a good start. **STROS**

NL Wild Card: I like the Pirates' uniforms a lot (unrelated), but you gotta pull for the Cubs. **CUBS**

ALDS: The Rangers are technically the underdogs, but they've been good recently. The Blue Jays haven't done anything since Clinton was in office, so let's see them go a little further. Kansas City has Petty Wap on their side, and that's enough for me. **JAYS & ROYALS**

NLDS: Mets vs. Dodgers? Total no-brainer. One is widely adored, has great history, star players and is in a fantastic city. The other is the Mets. Mets all day, baby. I think I speak on behalf of every non-Cardinals fan at Harding when I say this: Please beat the Cardinals, Chicago. Please. **METS & CUBS**

ALCS: A team from Canada can only go so far before this becomes a matter of patriotism, so I think this is where I draw that line. **USA! USA! USA! ROYALS**

NLCS: How many people do you think would tune in for a Mets/Cubs NLCS? Twelve? I still can't believe either of these teams are in the playoffs, but one of them won a title in the 1980s and the other hasn't since before the Titanic sank. **CUBS**

World Series: Royals vs. Cubs in the World Series. Sit back, laugh and realize that you live in a world where this is a real thing that could happen. Either way, Chicago is going to burn itself to the ground, so here's to hoping it's for a happy reason. **CUBS**

DAVID SALLEY is the sports editor for the 2015 Bison. He may be contacted at dsalley@harding.edu. Twitter: @dsalley24



COURTESY OF THE OFFICE OF PUBLIC RELATIONS

Junior quarterback Park Parish carries the ball during the Bisons' 26-21 loss to Ouachita Baptist University on Saturday, Oct. 3 in Arkadelphia, Arkansas. Parish carried 19 times for 55 yards and a touchdown and also completed a pass for 35 yards in the loss.

Bisons fall late at Ouachita Baptist

Despite first loss, Bisons remain in GAC title hunt, prepare for Henderson

By Caleb Rowan
Asst. Sports Editor

For the second year in a row, the Bisons football team had the lead on Ouachita Baptist University (OBU) late in the 4th quarter, and for the second year in a row it fell short. OBU found the endzone with 1:40 left in a 26-21 win, giving head coach Ronnie Huckleba's Bisons its first loss of 2015.

According to Huckleba, the scrambling ability of OBU's quarterback hurt the Bisons, as the Tigers converted eight of 12 third downs.

"If you look back at those conversions, quite a few of

them were their quarterback escaping pressure," Huckleba said. "He's a very good player."

Junior quarterback Park Parish agreed that OBU made the bigger plays when they needed to.

"We moved the ball well on them, I thought, but they did a better job of finishing drives than we did at the end of the day," Parish said.

Despite the loss, Huckleba saw bright spots in the Bisons' performance. The offense again piled up over 400 rushing yards, and junior running back Eric Kelly rushed for 114 yards, despite going out early

in the 3rd quarter with a hamstring injury.

"He averaged over 25 yards a carry," Huckleba said. "Sometimes it's your day, and it was definitely that for him."

According to Parish, the team remains upbeat about the rest of the season considering they remain in a tie atop the Great American Conference (GAC) standings and still have a shot at the GAC title.

"We can still win the conference and we can still make the playoffs, so we just have to learn from the mistakes we made on Saturday and move forward,"

Parish said.

The Bisons are preparing to rebound on Saturday, when they host Henderson State University (HSU).

"The worst thing we can do is let one loss turn into two, so we just have to move on and get ready for Henderson," Parish said.

In 2014, the Bisons regrouped from a home loss to OBU by beating 4th ranked HSU 28-24 on the road.

According to Huckleba, they will be mindful of last year's win as they prepare for Saturday.

"It helps me because I know we can bounce back from a tough loss," Huckleba

said. "That's who we are, we're guys who know what adversity is, and we are going to face it head on."

Parish said he expects the Bisons to respond with a win against HSU because of the mentality they have as a team.

"Last year we had the resiliency after a devastating loss to get a big win and that's the same culture we have this year," Parish said. "I expect us to have a great week of practice and be ready for this weekend."

The Bisons will host the Reddies of HSU on Saturday, Oct. 10, at 6 p.m. at First Security Stadium.



With New Tennis Coach

David Redding



What did you do before taking the job here?

I am the Director of Tennis at Northwood Club in Dallas, a position I have been in for 27 years. I began my career here at Northwood four and a half years earlier as the Assistant Tennis Pro one year after leaving Harding in 1983. So you could say that I'm back after a brief 31 and a half year career at my one job in Dallas. I plan to be on the job here at Harding in January.

Most memorable moment in your Bison playing career?

Wow, tough to choose just one. Being presented the Arthur Ashe Award at the US Open in 1983 by Arthur himself is probably the top individual moment. It was my first time to experience the noisy concrete jungle that is New York City. It seemed bigger than life. I remember it being a beautiful Saturday afternoon and here I was with the best woman in the world (my wife) watching the best tennis players in the world at the best tournament in the world. It was magical.

What are your expectations for your first year at the helm?

Right now, being so new to this college coaching thing, my expectations have more to do with process than performance. I want to learn in my players and get to know them on a personal level first. It's a huge thing to lose your coach in the middle of the season and try to accept a new one who you know nothing about. I hope to build trust and confidence in each of them. I truly believe they won't care how much I know until they know how much I care. That is priority number one coming in. Second one is easy: they better win! I've got a lot of matches to win if I want to catch Coach Elliott's record of over 1000 career wins here at Harding. I've calculated that I will be on track to catch him by the time I'm 94 if we win 80% of our matches this Spring and carry that out for the next 40 years.

What does coaching at your alma mater mean to you?

It sounds cliché, but coming back to Harding to coach the tennis team has always been a dream of mine. I even wrote a letter to President Burks in the early 90s when the women's tennis team was added, in the hopes that he would hire an additional coach to help with the program. It didn't happen to my disappointment. Over the years as I grew in my position at Northwood and as our family grew and got entrenched in Dallas, the dream faded. But enter God stage right. There is no question in either my wife Kay's mind or mine that God has played a role in this all along. I don't think I would have or could have, been the coach and mentor earlier that I think I can and will be now because of the life experiences I have had, combined with the patience and grace God has shown to me and my family. Suffice it to say coming back to coach at my alma mater is just awesome.



BRITTNEY GARRINGER | THE BISON

Harding freshman forward Jason Diaz pushes the ball into opposing territory while senior midfielder Josiah Ireland looks on in the Bisons 2-1 overtime loss to Ouachita Baptist University on Tuesday, Oct. 6. The loss dropped the Bisons to 2-8-1 overall and 1-2 in the GAC.

Men's soccer struggles again in loss to NSU

By Jordan Doyle
Beat Reporter

The men's soccer team lost 5-1 to Northeastern State University (NSU) on Oct. 1, their seventh loss of the year.

Head coach Odie Guzman said the team's mental focus was a part of the Bisons' loss.

"We have high aspirations going into these games," Guzman said. "The problem is whenever we get scored on, our mindset

takes a hit and we fall back into what we've been in the past, where we've taken the losses. If we can just stop the first goal coming in so early, I think we'd be fine going into the game."

Junior defender Phillip White said getting scored on early takes a toll on the players.

"An early goal against us means that we are going to have to work even harder the rest of the game to tie it up, and then potentially win

in the end," White said. "It's an exhausting sport. Every minor mistake may be the difference between a win or a loss, which makes it mentally taxing."

NSU scored in the game's first six minutes and by the half hour mark, NSU was leading 3-0. That changed after halftime when senior midfielder Josiah Ireland recovered a deflection and was able to score.

Guzman said he knows the team cannot give up that

many goals and expect to win, so they need to tune things up across the board.

"We understand that wins aren't just going to appear, and they just aren't going to be given to us," Guzman said. "We've been) tightening up our defense and working on runs and the work ethic. We're mentally pushing ourselves to get back behind the ball, sacrificing our body to at least get in front of a shot and chasing down players

we lost the ball to."

According to Ireland, the practice drills the team has been running will make a difference in future games.

"I think we go into games more prepared to deal with adversity," Ireland said. "This is something Coach has tried to instill in us, and I think we're growing mentally stronger."

The Bisons' next game is against Southwest Baptist University at home on Oct. 10.

Lady Bisons golf shoots best round of the year

By David Salley
Sports Editor

The Lady Bisons golf team had a strong showing at the University of Central Oklahoma Classic this week in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, posting their lowest 18-hole round of the season on Tuesday, Oct. 6 with a 339.

Sophomore Katelyn Walker and freshman Delaney Bowles both shot career-best 80s on Tuesday to lead the Lady Bisons. Head coach Dustin

Howell said that while he and the team were pleased with their overall play, they are always trying to improve.

"We played very well," Howell said. "Any time you have two personal bests and it's over a career, you take time to celebrate that. It's all about finding ways to get better. We started out the year with the idea of 'where are we at now, and where are we going,' and it's been a slow, but steady, progression of

accomplishments."

Junior Charles Ann Freeman, the most experienced player on the team, whose 174 placed her third for the Lady Bisons, said that after such a strong performance, it is important to try to carry on that momentum.

"While we all would have liked to play better, we scored our season best as a team and that's something to build on," Freeman said. "Heading into the next tournament, we just want to keep improving in

the areas we know we can and keep trying to lower our score."

The Lady Bisons will need to be at their best next week as they return to Oklahoma City to compete with a stacked field at the Great American Conference (GAC) Preview hosted by Southern Nazarene University. Howell said he's hoping to finish the fall season out strong.

"Our conference is stout," Howell said. "We have great teams that we're up

against, so it kind of gives you an idea of where you are going to be as you head towards the conference championship in the spring. So hopefully we track down a few of the teams there and see if we can't find a good way to end the fall semester, and then know what we need to work on for the spring."

The Lady Bisons play in their final tournament of the fall, the GAC Preview, Oct. 12-13 in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

Club Sports Review

By Hunter Beck
Head Web Editor

Club volleyball began last week, and men's social club Sub T-16 will look to continue its dominance, having won men's large club A and B team volleyball last year. Gamma Sigma Phi placed second in both competitions. Omega Phi placed first and second in men's small club A and B team respectively, with Sigma Nu Epsilon finishing second and first.

Zeta Rho controlled women's club volleyball last year, winning large club A and B team competitions. Taking second in both competitions was Delta Gamma Rho. Iota Chi won small club A team, with Sigma Phi Mu finishing second, and it took second in B Team competition behind Phi Kappa Delta.

Sub T-16 will aim to build its men's large club A team all sports lead, having defeated TNT in flag football earlier this semester 21-20 in overtime to take the first championship of the year and the 10 points that accompany it. The roles were reversed in B team competition, with TNT taking first over Sub T-16, 37-20. Newcomers Lambda Chi Theta got their club sports campaign off to a strong start, winning men's small club A team flag football. Omega Phi finished as runners-up.

In women's large club A team flag football, Chi Omega Phi defeated Ko Jo Jai (KJK) to take first. KJK won the B team division, however, with Ju Go Ju finishing second. Regina won the women's small club A team competition, and Sigma Phi Mu took second.

LOCKER TALK

Our Athletes' Views on Pop Culture

questions

	Daylan Skidmore Football	Eric Simmons Football	Molly Howard Volleyball	Josiah Baker Cross Country	Anna Leigh Cargile Volleyball
Favorite scary movie?	Sharknado.	Leprechaun in the Hood 2 still gives me nightmares.	Jumanji (it's super scary as a child, but so good.)	Star Wars Episode 3.	IT, cause I am deathly afraid of clowns and never watch scary movies because of that one.
Who are you pulling for in the MLB playoffs?	'Stros.	The Yankees were my ace, but now I'm rolling with the Astros. #GOSTROS	St. Louis Cardinals.	Not the Cardinals.	Cardinals.
Favorite caf food?	All of the breakfast food mashed up onto one plate.	The chocolate chip cookies.	Croutons. They often get taken for granted.	Crispy Basa.	Water. Haha, just kidding the Cinnamon Toast Crunch.
Which TV show character do you most relate to?	Pablo from Narcos.	Chris from Everybody Hates Chris.	Louis Stevens from Even Stevens. He had some really good ideas, but just wasn't always understood.	George Michael Bluth from Arrested Development.	Patrick Star.

History House showcases Harding heritage

By Rachel Brackins
Head Copy Editor

The Harding History House offers visitors the chance to travel back in time to experience the stories and the people who played an integral part in the success of the university.

Debbie Howard, the History House curator, said the house provides information about the people who had visions for Christian education and who made personal sacrifices so that the dreams could become realities. According to Howard, there are displays dating back to 1924 that share the university's beginnings in Morrilton, Arkansas. In addition to history, one can also find information about the first ladies, the presidents and international programs.

According to Howard, a recent addition to the house includes a display that features letters written between Wyatt Sawyer, a 1945 graduate, and a young man in prison. Howard said the young man was in prison because he had fallen away from his faith and committed murder. He shared with Sawyer that if there had been someone at church to help him stay connected he would not have fallen in with

the wrong crowd. Sawyer eventually wrote a book titled "Must the Young Die, Too?" that recounts the story of the young man's life.

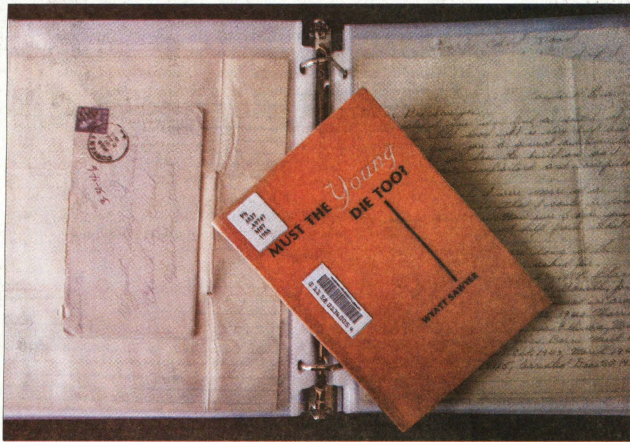
Howard said a display honoring the late Dr. Neale Pryor will be up in time for Homecoming. Treva Pryor, Neale Pryor's wife, said she is excited and humbled for her husband to be honored.

"We've been planning it for a month," Pryor said. "Debbie (Howard) came over; we visited and walked around my house. I let her see some things she could use for the display. I've started taking things off of the walls, and she's going to come and finish up and then take it all over to the History House."

Pryor said she hopes the display will show visitors her husband's deep love for God, Harding and Christian education.

"I want people to see the love that he had for the Lord in giving his life for Christian education and spreading the gospel," Pryor said. "He had so much love for his students, and I think that should be Devoted his life to Harding and his students."

Howard said she enjoys working at the History House



THE HISTORY HOUSE, dedicated to sharing Harding heritage, honors 1945 graduate Wyatt Sawyer with a display. Sawyer exchanged letters with a man in prison and wrote the book, "Must the Young Die, Too?"

because of all of the unique people she comes in contact with. From the group of quilters who meet at the house every Tuesday, to Chancellor Emeritus Ganus who stops by to talk, to the alumni who

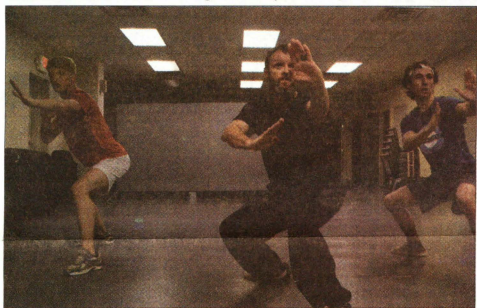
spend time reminiscing; Howard said she is blessed by them all.

"On all these occasions I learn by just being in the presence of these men and women who unselfishly give

of their time to share what Harding means to them," Howard said.

Students are invited to visit and learn about Harding's rich heritage. The History House is located at 205 Lott Tucker

Drive and is open on Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 11 a.m. - 4 p.m. For more information, visit their website at www.harding.edu/historyhouse or call (501) 279-9359.



BRITTNEY GARRINGER | The Bison

Sophomore Matthew Wilcox, Dr. Kevin Youngblood and sophomore Graeme Gastineau practice Kung fu for Impact 360 at Complete in Christ Church. Impact 360 is a Kung fu class on Tuesday and Thursday evenings.

HU staff fosters hope

Heather Davis, Andrew Baker and Brandon Tittle serve as foster parents

By Savanna DiStefano
Features Editor

Heather Davis said she and her husband have always loved children. After marrying, the couple had three children. When their youngest was two years old, Davis said her husband wished they had just one more.

So they added five. Davis, Residence Life Coordinator (RLC) for Cathcart Hall, and her husband have fostered five children in nearly five years of participating in foster care. Davis said her family has only gone four months in the past five years without a foster child.

"Foster care has been a huge blessing to me," Davis said. "God loves these children in foster care more than I do, and more than I can even comprehend."

The family hosted their first foster child, Trey, two days after being accepted as foster parents and adopted him two years later.

"Many people believe when you foster it takes something away from your own children, but I have found quite the opposite with my own kids," Davis said. "My heart simply expands with each child that comes into my care, and I love even more to see my own children's hearts expand."

The second and third foster children stayed temporarily and later found permanent

homes. The family currently fosters a set of brothers and plans to adopt them by the end of the year, Davis said.

"I can tell (my children) all day long that Jesus commands us to minister to 'the least of these,' but there is no better way to learn a lesson like that than to live it," Davis said. "It reminds them that we can be missionaries right here in Searcy, Arkansas."

Dr. Andrew Baker, assistant Bible professor and director of the Mitchell Center, is president of the Searcy Children's Home board. He and his wife have three biological children and have fostered six children in the past two years.

"There are a lot of kids who need to be loved," Baker said. "In every little kid who comes into care, we plant a seed."

Over 4,000 children are in foster care at any given time in Arkansas with an average of 1,200 active foster homes, according to the Arkansas Department of Human Services.

"We didn't get into foster care to adopt," Baker said. "We got into it because we knew there were kids who needed love, and in many cases, their parents need it too."

Baker said being a foster parent has taught him mercy and made him a better father.

"(Foster care) is a place in need of mercy to triumph," Baker said. "It's easy to criticize, anybody can criticize, but it's

a whole lot more difficult to create, and to create opportunity, especially in people who have had none... Most people need a hand up, not a hand out."

Brandon Tittle, assistant dean of students, began fostering children in 2008. Tittle said he and his wife have always been interested in foster care and adoption.

"We feel like God has been pretty specific that we have to do this," Tittle said. "We don't feel like we chose to, other than being obedient."

Tittle said his own biological children have welcomed all of the foster children they have hosted, especially new daughter Eden who was adopted by the family in 2014.

"To us, it is definitely a family mission," Tittle said. "It's taught our kids at an early age how to look outside themselves and not be selfish... and that's been really cool to see how it changes them."

Tittle said saying goodbye to the foster children is challenging yet rewarding because he knows the children were safe and loved for some time.

"(Fostering has) opened my eyes to such a big need in taking care of kids," Tittle said. "There's a whole world right off campus that really needs the church to step in and help and take care of these kids and work with their parents."

By Sara Denney
Student Writer

Bible department professors Dr. Scott Crenshaw and Dr. Kevin Youngblood teach classes during the day and instruct Kung fu on Tuesday and Thursday evenings through Impact 360 in Searcy.

Youngblood said he strives to combine Biblical principles with Kung fu in his classes.

"It's the greatest combo in the world," sophomore Graeme Gastineau, attendee of Youngblood's Kung fu class, said about the combination of Kung fu and the Bible.

Youngblood said he hopes to teach students to defend the weak and to take a hit without retaliation.

"I know how to respond to an attack in a way that is appropriate from a Christian perspective," Youngblood said.

Youngblood said his martial arts training began at nine years old when he started Judo. He switched to Kung fu at age 10.

Not only has Youngblood been learning and practicing Kung fu from a young age, but he has also taught it since he was 15 years old, he said.

When Crenshaw approached Youngblood about teaching a Kung fu class at Impact 360, it provided an excellent way to contribute to the community, according to Youngblood.

"I like what it does for students," Youngblood said. "I like the discipline that it instills

in students and the self-control that it gives to them."

Youngblood recruited Gastineau to be a part of the class at a Bible majors' cookout at the end of the 2014 spring semester, Gastineau said.

According to Gastineau, he was twirling a stick and Youngblood approached him and said "you're doing it wrong." Youngblood proceeded to show Gastineau how to properly use the large stick as a weapon, all while holding his baby son in the other arm.

Gastineau is not the first in his family to learn the art of Kung fu. Gastineau's father learned Kung fu from Youngblood while they attended school together at Lipscomb University. Gastineau said "he is living through that legacy."

Gastineau soon became involved in Kung fu, and said he benefits from it in more ways than just his exercise.

"As Christians we discipline ourselves in different Christian practices so that in times of crisis, those practices will become second nature," Gastineau said. "Likewise we learn Kung fu to discipline others, to fight just enough to protect yourself and protect others."

Youngblood teaches a beginner-level Kung fu class on Tuesday and Thursday evenings. More information can be found at impact360online.com.

Man of many hobbies

By Garrett Howard
Student Writer

Dr. Ken Hobby, professor of psychology, enjoys many pastimes such as collecting old Asian tableware from various dynasties and practicing kung fu, a form of combat martial arts.

Perhaps his most important endeavor, one he claims is his "passion project," is providing a scholarship program that aids men training to be preachers and teachers with the Nambwanga Mission in Zambia. The students train through the George Benson Christian College (GBCC).

"I did a lot of driving in the rural areas, but there are no churches out there," Hobby said. "The area is so remote, only Zambians can really live there, so we started looking for people willing to go."

Hobby became involved with the conception of the GBCC scholarship program in 1999. The program covers tuition as well as room and board. The college provides studies for one to three years (depending on where the student goes after graduating) and supports the students for a month afterward until they settle into a congregation.

Some areas deemed too inhospitable or dangerous, like the Angola border, have recently opened up, allowing graduates of the program to reach the people there.

According to Hobby, physically arriving at an area is only half the battle. Whether or not a congregation can be planted depends on local authority. To establish a church, one

must get permission from the chief.

To remedy these situations, a medical group is brought every year to help the teaching team get permission.

"If you bring in a medical team, (the chief) is like, 'You bet,' Hobby said.

Thanks to teams forming relationships with local groups, the GBCC has established a good reputation, as well as over 250 congregations in the last two years.

According to Hobby, the Zambian government ultimately decides where teams and graduates go, which means sometimes the administration is not allowed to send teams where it wants to. However, this does not always prove detrimental.

"The Zambian government usually sends people to places where no one wants to go," Hobby said. "Luckily, these are the same areas where churches need to be."

Once a preacher has settled in a congregation, he is no longer financially supported by the GBCC. According to Hobby, this empowers the preachers to do their own work.

"This process is very subversive, and gets them embedded all over Zambia while the government pays for them," Hobby said.

The work in Zambia is not new to Hobby. His parents were missionaries working in the area, where he was raised for 15 years before returning to the U.S.

"I call myself an African-American Indian, since I'm half Cherokee, one-sixteenth Mohawk, and grew up in Africa," Hobby said. "I'm a real mixed up person."



Apple brings new 3-D Touch to iPhone 6s, 6s Plus

By Z'Ann Hardin
Beat Reporter

On Sept. 25, Apple released its newest additions to the iPhone family, the iPhone 6s and 6s Plus. Within the first weekend, Apple sold 13 million of its newest products, breaking their previous record of 10 million in 2014 with the iPhone 6 and 6 Plus.

Every year a new model is released, and an "s" is released every other year. Apple states that it does this to give the engineers more time to make changes and update technology. Generally the small changes that consist of slightly faster hardware and a slightly better camera. On the years where it advances a number larger changes like size, layout, camera, appearance/structure, and iOS take place.

With Apple's new

release, the designers have shown that they know what they are doing. The 6s has brought with it vast changes, most being inside the camera. The camera quality has improved, jumping from eight mega-pixels to 12 mega-pixels and 4K video. The FaceTime HD camera is now five mega-pixels as opposed to 1.2 and includes a retina flash (which helps with those selfies). Panoramas are now much better quality as well. A completely new camera feature, Live Photos, has been introduced. With Live Photos you can actually go back and share the context of a photo.

Harding alumnus and University of Central Arkansas Campus Photographer Grant Schol said

his new iPhone the weekend of its release. When asked what he thought about Live Photos he was more than impressed.

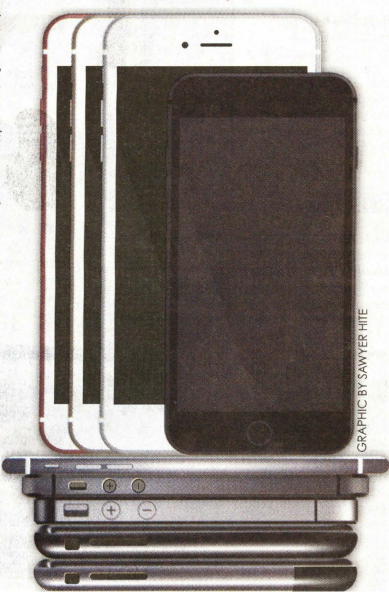
"As a photographer, I capture moments," Schol said. "Up until now that meant a single still frame, but sometimes that doesn't give justice to all that was going on in that particular moment."

Another feature of the 6s and 6s Plus that seems to have impressed people is the 3-D Touch. 3-D Touch allows you to interact not only by tapping a glass screen, but also by gaining more control of the phone and its contents. The phone now gauges the sensitivity of the touch, allowing you to maneuver your apps more efficiently.

The last notable change would be the

color. Apple added a new color to its original line up of space gray, silver, and gold, which has since been removed from 6 and replaced with Rose Gold. The news of a new color much excitement as many people exclaimed "rose gold or bust." The new color sold out first. However, I was able to try out the new phone, and didn't much like the new color. Everything else was a huge improvement.

Though we are college students and this is not exactly cost efficient, I do believe that the release of the iPhone 6s and 6s Plus was a good move and investment. The features of the 6s, and the phone itself, are yet another stamp that Apple has put on technology.



GRAPHIC BY SAWYER LITE

Marvel pushing super hero movies to their limit

By Garrett Howard
Student Writer

Ever since Sam Raimi's "Spider Man" trilogy ended its theatrical run, giving a combined total of \$2.5 billion, superhero movies have dominated the summer box office. However, comic book films are not restricted to the hottest months of the year. Since the release of "Captain America: The Winter Soldier" in April 2014, these films have proven they can rule theaters regardless of the season.

Conversely, even with the scheduled release of 23 superhero films over the next four years, the superhero genre may have finally found itself in peril.

With four major production studios – Disney/Marvel, Warner Bros., Fox and Sony – in the comic book movie business since 2009, the oversaturation of superhero movies is a topic that usually takes a backseat to casting choices and trailer discussions. Recently, however, the duration of comic book movie popularity has become a more prominent issue.

Several celebrities have spoken out about the survival rate of superhero

movies, including Henry Cavill ("Man of Steel") and Chris Evans ("Captain America: The Winter Soldier"), but one stands out by recently taking direct shots at the genre. Steven Spielberg, the director of classic films such as "Jaws," the "Indiana Jones" franchise and "Jurassic Park," stated in a Sept. 2, interview with The Associated Press that the superhero craze is bound to burn out.

"We were around when the Western died, and there will be a time when the superhero movie goes the way of the Western," Spielberg said.

Whether or not Spielberg (or other directors who share similar views, like Zack Snyder and Dan Gilroy) is right, box office statistics showed that was not the strongest summer for superheroes.

2015's summer movie season began with Marvel's "Avengers: Age of Ultron," the sequel to Marvel's 2012 money-making juggernaut: "The Avengers." Being a part of Marvel's most lucrative property, "Age of Ultron" was expected by many film analysts, including those at Boxoffice.com, to top the opening weekend record set by its predecessor

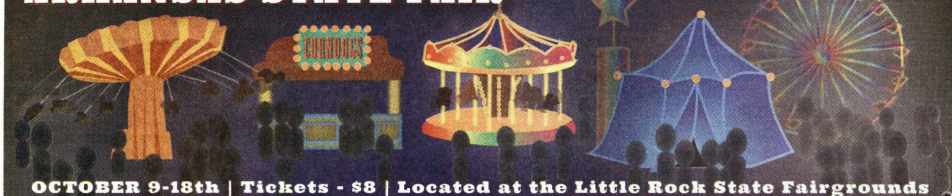
(\$207.4 million). This, however, was not the case. By the weekend's close, Disney announced that the superhero team-up sequel "only" made \$191.2 million, an "underperformance" in comparison to its expectations. The superhero film many expected to climb to the top of 2015's blockbuster ladder couldn't quite reach.

Disney and Marvel were not done yet, however. "Ant Man" was next on their lineup, serving as the closing film for Marvel's Phase Two campaign. Bringing in a relatively unknown hero was risky business, but Marvel had proven in 2014 with "Guardians of the Galaxy" that their name carries sincere weight with their properties. With virtually no one having heard of the superhero team prior, "Guardians" went on to make a surprising \$774.2 million, becoming the third highest-grossing film of 2014, as well as the highest-grossing superhero film of the year. However, where "Guardians" opened to a strong \$94 million, "Ant Man" opened to a "lackluster" \$58 million. This puts it at the second lowest opening for a Marvel film, just

ahead of 2008's "The Incredible Hulk" (\$55 million). Despite not reaching opening weekend estimates (\$60 million), as well as currently being the third-lowest grossing film in the Marvel cinematic universe (just ahead of "The Incredible Hulk" and "Captain America: The First Avenger"), Disney stated it was "content" with the results of "Ant Man."

Currently, the superhero genre is thriving. However, moviegoers and film professionals are suspecting that staleness may be setting in. Many "Age of Ultron" reviews on Rotten Tomatoes describe the film as "more of the same" (in regard to previous Marvel movies), while Screen Rant's positive review for "Ant Man" describes the film as "a formulaic Marvel superhero origin tale." In a world where new superhero movies and shared universes are being announced on a regular basis, mishandles such as Marc Webb's "The Amazing Spider Man" series lend credence to the complaints that studios can only throw so much at fans before they get fed up.

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'Dinosaurs Around the World' takes attendees back in time

By Joshua Johnson
Opinions Editor

Animatronic dinosaurs await young and old alike outside the Clinton Presidential Center (CPC) for one more week as part of a temporary exhibit called "Dinosaurs Around the World," which has been open to the public since April 25. The exhibit officially closes on Oct. 18 and can be accessed in its entirety with the \$5 admission fee to the CPC.

According to executive director Stephanie S. Street, the CPC is hosting the global premiere of the exhibit.

"Our summer exhibits are highly anticipated by

the community because they are specifically designed to appeal to the entire family," Street said in an April press release.

The exhibit not only features 13 animatronic dinosaurs that are sure to delight young visitors, but also includes highly detailed information on fossil records, geology and climatology relating to the prehistoric lizards of ancient times.

"Dinosaurs Around the World" is not a large exhibit, containing only two rooms of information and animatronics. A well-rounded visit would take no more than an hour. But the exhibit contains vast amounts of information to

help draw conclusions on age-old discussions, such as the "myth of the Griffin" (it is thought to have been inspired by the fossils of the dinosaur Protoceratops) and the famous Velociraptor (whose name actually means "swift plunderer" and is considered to be one of the most ferocious of the smaller dinosaur species).

The exhibit also covers an aspect of paleontology, displaying and describing tools used in the profession, as well as the usage of more unconventional household items like glue and paintbrushes. One panel provides information about various dinosaur genera, while giving

visitors the opportunity to name their own dinosaur.

Although not as large as I was anticipating, the exhibit

was fun, colorful and effective at transporting visitors to the Mesozoic period, if only for a short time. If you want

spice up your Snapchat story with a little bit of Jurassic flavoring, take a trip to the CPC before Oct. 18.

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